

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10
DOE-15 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NASA-02 SOE-02 SS-15 OES-07 NSCE-00
INRE-00 SSO-00 NRC-07 /151 W
-----069321 210956Z /23

O 210939Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7424
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 04271

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TSPA, UN, UR
SUBJECT: LEGAL OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE

1. SUMMARY. SIXTH DAY OF LSC DEVOTED TO CONTINUATION OF
GENERAL STATEMENTS AND ELABORATION OF
POSITIONS ON DBS, REMOTE SENSING, GSO AND DELIMITATION OF
OUTER SPACE. TEN DELEGATIONS, NIGERIA, INDIA, CZECHO-
SLOVAKIA, BRAZIL, NETHERLANDS, CANADA, MONGOLIA, EGYPT,
IRAN AND FRANCE SPOKE. WORKING GROUP ON DBS HOLDS FIRST
MEETING.

2. ALL DELEGATIONS EXCEPT CZECHOSLOVAKIA, CANADA, MONGOLIA
AND FRANCE MADE STATEMENTS SUPPORTING THE PROPOSALS FOR
EXAMINATION OF THE LEGAL INSTRUMENTS RELATING TO NUCLEAR
POWER SERVICES IN SPACE AND THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP.
NIGERIA DREW ATTENTION TO THE POINT THAT WITHOUT APPROPRI-
ATE INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MAY NOT
HAVE THE MEANS TO EVEN DETECT THE INTRUSION OF RADIO ACTIVE
MATERIAL FROM SPACE. INDIA AND IRAN PROPOSED THAT UNTIL
SUCH INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS COULD BE ESTABLISHED THAT A
MORATORIUM ON LAUNCHING SATELLITES POWERED BY NUCLEAR
REACTORS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. BRAZIL STATED THAT TO IN-
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SURE THAT THE EXPLORATION OF SPACE IS STRICTLY FOR PEACEFUL
PURPOSES THAT MILITARY SATELLITES AND SATELLITES OF A
HOSTILE NATURE SHOULD BE OUTLAWED.

3. NIGERIA, BRAZIL, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, MONGOLIA, EGYPT AND
FRANCE PRESENTED STRONG STATEMENTS SUPPORTING CONCEPT OF
PRIOR CONSENT AND FULL RECOGNITION OF SOVEREIGNTY WITH RE-

GARD TO DBS. INDIA AND IRAN COUCHED STATEMENTS IN TERMS OF BALANCE BETWEEN SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF THE RECEIVING STATE AND THE FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION. THE NETHERLANDS SUPPORTED THE POSITION PREVIOUSLY GIVEN BY THE UK THAT THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS MAKE IT UNNECESSARY TO DEAL WITH DBS IN THE LSC AT LEAST AT THE PRESENT TIME. CANADA SPEAKING FOR BOTH SWEDEN AND CANADA DIRECTED ATTENTION TO THEIR JOINT WORKING PAPER WITH A CALL TO END DEBATE AND SEEK AGREEMENT ON THE COMPROMISE TEXT.

4. NIGERIA, INDIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BRAZIL, MONGOLIA, EGYPT AND IRAN PRESENTED STRONG POSITIONS THAT WITH RESPECT TO REMOTE SENSING THE SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF THE SENSED COUNTRY MUST BE OBSERVED AND DATA NOT DISSEMINATED WITHOUT THE COUNTRY'S PERMISSION. THE NETHERLANDS SUPPORTED THE GREATEST POSSIBLE DISSEMINATION OF DATA, WHILE FRANCE INDICATING CONCERN FOR THE SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF SENSED COUNTRIES ADVISED AGAINST RESTRICTING DEVELOPMENT OF THE TECHNOLOGY. NIGERIA INDICATED THAT AFRICA HAS GREAT INTEREST IN REMOTE SENSING AND HAD THEREFORE ESTABLISHED A REMOTE SENSING COUNCIL, BUT WHILE THE COUNCIL WAS TRYING TO SET UP AGREEMENTS, A SPACE POWER SIGNED UP WITH TWO OTHER STATES IN AFRICA. NIGERIA FURTHER STATED THAT DATA COLLECTED BY US LANDSAT SYSTEM OF NIGERIA HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO A THIRD COUNTRY AND THAT NIGERIA WILL SEEK ASSURANCES AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME FROM US THAT FURTHER DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH UNCLASSIFIED

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DATA WILL NOT BE MADE WITHOUT APPROVAL OF NIGERIA. DELEGATION REQUESTS ANY INFORMATION PERTAINING TO COUNCIL NEGOTIATIONS AND TO OTHER TWO AFRICAN STATES REFERRED ASAP.

5. NIGERIA, IRAN AND FRANCE SUPPORTED MUTUAL ACCESS OF THE GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE LIMITED FREQUENCIES AND POSITION AVAILABLE WHILE BRAZIL EMPHASIZED FREQUENCY RIGHTS WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE STATES OVER WHICH THE SATELLITES WOULD BE LOCATED. EGYPT SOLICITED AN EXAMINATION OF THE ISSUE BY THE LSC TO ARRIVE AT THE APPROPRIATE RESULTS.

6. NETHERLANDS EXPRESSED POSITION THAT THERE WAS NO URGENT NEED TO ARRIVE AT A DELIMITATION OF OUTER SPACE. IRAN FELT THAT A 50 TO 100 KILOMETER LINE SEEMS LOGICAL WHILE FRANCE SAID THAT ADDITIONAL STUDY IS UNNECESSARY AND A REASONABLE AND ROUGH LIMIT COULD BE ESTABLISHED WITHIN SOME SCIENTIFIC CRITERIA.

7. WORKING GROUP 2 ON DIRECT BROADCAST BY SATELLITE, MEETING AS A MINI-GROUP ON AFTERNOON OF MARCH 20, BEGAN ITS WORK WITH DISCUSSION OF PARAGRAPH 1 OF THE TEXT ON

CONSULTATION AND AGREEMENTS BETWEEN STATES FORMULATED BY THE WORKING PARTY, ON JUNE 27, 1977, AT THE VIENNA MEETING OF THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE NIGERIAN DEL, THE POSITIONS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS WERE AS STATED AT THE VIENNA MEETING. NIGERIAN DEL REFUSED TO ACCEPT PRESENT BRACKETED PARAGRAPH 1, SUGGESTING THAT "AND OR ARRANGEMENTS" BE DROPPED, THAT "NOT INCONSISTENT" BE REPLACED WITH "CONSONANT," AND THAT REFERENCE TO "FREER AND WIDER DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION OF ALL KINDS" BE DROPPED. AS REVISED BY NIGERIAN DEL, PARAGRAPH 1 WOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

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INRE-00 SSO-00 NRC-07 /151 W
-----069323 211000Z /23

O 210939Z MAR 78
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"A DIRECT TELEVISION BROADCASTING SERVICE BY MEANS OF ARTIFICIAL EARTH SATELLITES SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED AT A FOREIGN STATE, WHICH SHALL BE ESTABLISHED ONLY WHEN CONSONANT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE RELEVANT INSTRUMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION, SHALL BE BASED ON APPROPRIATE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE BROADCASTING AND RECEIVING STATES OR THE BROADCASTING ENTITIES DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE RESPECTIVE STATES, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE AND TO ENCOURAGE CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION AND THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES."

ATTEMPTS WERE MADE BY OTHER DELEGATIONS TO EXPLAIN THAT PRESENT TEXT WAS CAREFULLY BALANCED COMPROMISE REACHED IN VIENNA AFTER DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS, SPACE EXPLORATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA04271
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780124-0025
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780344/aaaabktr.tel
Line Count: 167
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 20d960c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3259703
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEGAL OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE
TAGS: TSPA, UR, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/20d960c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014